

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: J. David Fortenbery
Serial No.: 09/504,052
Filing Date: February 14, 2000
For: **HIGH EFFICIENCY SORTING CONVEYOR**

Assistant Director for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

POWER OF ATTORNEY

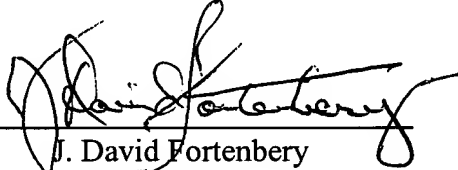
Sir:

The undersigned, assignee of the entire interest in and to an application of J. David Fortenbery et al. for U.S. Letters Patent for **HIGH EFFICIENCY SORTING CONVEYOR**, filed February 14, 2000, Serial No. 09/504,052, by an assignment document recorded with the Patent and Trademark Office (a copy attached hereto) hereby appoints the firm of Rhodes & Mason, P.L.L.C., comprising C. Robert Rhodes, Reg. No. 24,200, Edward W. Rilee, Reg. No. 31,869, Howard A. MacCord, Jr., Reg. No. 28,639, Jack B. Hicks, Reg. No. 34,180, James L. Lester, Reg. No. 38,721, William J. Mason, Reg. No. 22,948, Gilbert J. Andia, Jr., Reg. No. 38,815, Benjamin S. Withrow, Reg. No. 40,876, Amy H. Fix, Reg. No. 42,616, Stanislav Antolin, Reg. No. 34,979, Robert P. Santandrea, Reg. No. 45,072, and Lewis S. Rowell, Reg. No. 45,469, as my attorneys and/or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Furthermore, in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(b), the undersigned hereby states that the documentary evidence of a chain of title from the original owner to the assignee, i.e. assignment document referenced above, has been reviewed and the undersigned certifies that, to the best of assignee's knowledge and belief, title is in assignee who seeks to prosecute this application.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS AND TELEPHONE CALLS TO:
RHODES & MASON, P.L.L.C., POST OFFICE BOX 2974, GREENSBORO, NORTH
CAROLINA 27402, (336) 273-4422.

MANTISSA CORPORATION

BY: 
J. David Fortenbery
President

Date: X
File No.: 3308-033

ASSIGNMENT

This Assignment made by us, J. David Fortenbery, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 7000 Sugar Loaf Court, Charlotte, North Carolina 28217, and David Erceg, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at 6012 Israel Drive, Concord, North Carolina 28205, hereinafter referred to as assignors.

WITNESSETH: That,

WHEREAS, we are the joint inventors of certain new and useful improvements in a **HIGH EFFICIENCY SORTING CONVEYOR** for which we have made an application for Letters Patent of the United States, application serial number 09/504,052, filed February 14, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mantissa Corporation, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina and having a principal place of business in Charlotte, North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as assignee, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention as described in the specification executed by us concurrently herewith, and any and all Letters Patent which shall be granted therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, To All Whom It May Concern, be it known that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we, the said assignors, have sold, assigned, transferred and set over unto the said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to the above-mentioned application and invention and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States which may hereafter be granted therefor, and in any and to any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, substitutions, divisions or reissues of said Letters Patent, the same to be held and enjoyed by the said assignee, for its interest, and for its own use and behalf, and the use and behalf of its successors and

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assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us had this assignment and sale not been made.

And for the consideration aforesaid, we hereby covenant and agree to and with the said assignee, its successors and assigns, that at the time of the execution and delivery of these presents we are the joint and lawful owners of the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention, application and Letters Patent above-mentioned and that the same are unencumbered, and that we have good right and lawful authority to sell and convey the same in the manner herein set forth.

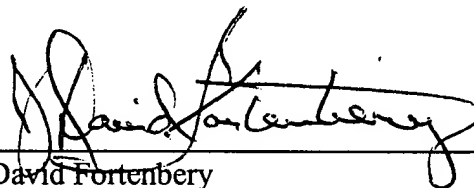
And for the consideration aforesaid, we hereby covenant and agree to and with the said assignee, its successors and assigns, that we will, whenever its counsel or the counsel of its successors and assigns, learned in the law, shall advise that an amendment, division, continuation, continuation-in-part, or substitution of, or any other proceeding in connection with said application, including interference proceedings, is lawful and desirable, sign all papers and drawings, take all rightful oaths, and do all acts necessary or required to be done for the procurement of valid Letters Patent for said invention, or for the reissue of the same without charge to our said assignee, its successors or assigns, but at its or their expense.

We hereby request the Commissioner for Patents to issue the Letters Patent in accordance with this instrument.

For the consideration aforesaid, we have sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents do sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto the said assignee, its successors, assigns or nominee, the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all Letters Patent for said invention which may be granted in countries foreign to the United States and in and to any

applications for Letters Patent which may be filed for said invention in countries foreign to the United States and in and to the invention described in said application; and we hereby authorize and empower the said assignee, its successors, assigns or nominees to apply for Letters Patent or other form of protection on said invention in its own name or in the name of its successor, assignee, or nominee, in any and all countries where it may desire to file such application and where said application may be filed by another than the inventor; and we hereby covenant and agree to sign all papers and drawings, take all rightful oaths, and do all acts necessary or required to be done for procurement of Letters Patent, or other form of protection, for said invention or inventions in countries foreign to the United States, and for further investing or confirming the right and title therein to the assignee, its successors, assignee, or nominee, without charge to our said assignee, its successor, assignee or nominee, but at its or their expense.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals on the date(s) indicated below.

x 
J. David Fortenbery

Date: X 5/11/00

x 
David Erceg

Date: X 5/12/00